



July 2014

ARLANDRIA

ARLANDRIA ACTION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION ACTIVITIES

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Upcoming Event:

2014 Quality of Life Walk

July 18; 9:30am—11:30am

Meet at 4109 Mt. Vernon Ave

Questions?

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www.alexandriava.gov/arlandria

In 2003, the City adopted A Long-Term Vision and Action Plan for the Arlandria Neighborhood (Action Plan). This newsletter provides a summary of recent implementation activities and project highlights.

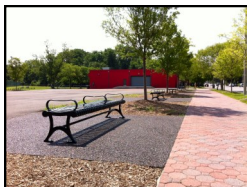
Four Mile Run Park

Expansion Site

Changes to the Four Mile Run Park Expansion site continue. Benches and picnic tables were recently added. Additional tables and BBQ grills may be added with remaining project funds, if available. The stone dust areas of the plaza have also been resurfaced with Flexi-Pave, a stable porous material consisting of recycled tires and gravel.

A contribution of \$5,000 was received from the Alexandria Childhood Obesity Action Network to incorporate natural

play features at the plaza. Natural boulders of various textures and sizes will be installed near trees to provide a shaded outdoor area that can be also be used by playgroups using the Conservatory Center.



Conservatory Center at Four Mile Run Park 4109 Mt. Vernon Avenue

The City received an Environmental Protec-

tion Agency (EPA) grant to demonstrate sustainable practices and plan to use the funds to resurface the Conservatory Center parking lot using eco-friendly materials. The new parking spaces will be constructed from several types of porous pavements; including porous concrete, porous asphalt, and pavers. In addition, a new rain garden, paths and natural play areas will also be installed. When completed it will resemble what was envisioned in this conceptual drawing. Construction is anticipated to begin in the fall of 2014.



Four Mile Run Park Farmers and Artisans Market

In June, the City Council approved Planning Commission's recommendation to expand the activities permitted at the Four Mile Park Expansion site and the Conservatory Center during operation of the market. The changes include:

- ◆ Hours of operation: 7am to sunset for up to 3 days per week, by agreement with City Staff
- ◆ Sale of foods prepared on-site: food can be prepared and sold via food carts, food trucks, and food trailers
- ◆ Craft beer and wine special events: the sale of craft beer and wine for off-premise consumption is permitted only during special events approved by the City
- ◆ Amplified music: Permitted at low levels

Four Mile Run Restoration

In-stream improvements will begin in **October 2014**. Due to grant deadlines, the project must be complete by September 2015. Improvements include naturalizing the stream bank and wetlands, removing scrub vegetation and invasive plants, and constructing a trail extension from the formal trail (at Bruce Street) to the stream bank. During construction, the northwest section of the Four Mile Run Park pathway will be closed. Access to the park from Mt. Vernon Avenue will be diverted through Bruce Street. The soccer field and playground will remain open and accessible throughout the project. As the construction start date draws near, the project webpage will be used to provide updates: <http://www.novaregion.org>.

Transportation

Transit Improvements

New Bus Shelters

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) is in the final phase of approving the City's Invitation to Bid (ITB) package, bus shelter site plans, and bus shelter design. VDOT is expected to complete its review and provide final approval by the end of July 2014. The City will issue the ITB once VDOT gives the City the approval to proceed. The City will manage the construction of the bus shelters. The northbound Mt. Vernon Avenue/Executive Avenue double bus shelter is first on the list to be replaced. Until VDOT provides approval, an estimated date for construction cannot be provided. There is hope that construction could start in late fall of this year if VDOT provides approval by the end of July.

A temporary bus shelter solution will be provided for the northbound Mt. Vernon Avenue/W. Glebe bus shelter which was totaled in 2013 in an accident involving a Mr. Wash employee. A bus shelter pad was installed the week of June 28, 2014. A bus shelter currently installed at Route 1/Custis Avenue will be relocated to the Mt. Vernon Avenue/W. Glebe location until a new shelter is installed in 2015. The bus shelter located at Route 1/Custis Avenue is no longer needed due to the opening of the transitway in August 2014.

New Bus Route Serving Arlandria

Lastly, beginning **July 28, 2014**, the new DASH AT9 crosstown route will begin operating weekdays from 6:00am to 9:00pm, every 30 minutes and Saturday from 7:00am to 9:00pm, every 60 minutes. The AT9 will provide crosstown connections between Mark Center, Southern Towers, Northern Virginia Community College, Bradlee Shopping Center, Shirlington Transit Center in Arlington, Parkfairfax, Arlandria, and Potomac Yard. The AT9 will serve Arlandria by traveling on East/West Glebe Road between Valley Drive and Route 1. AT9 will not serve the Mark Center, Southern Towers, or NVCC on Saturdays. More information on the AT9 route can be found at <http://www.dashbus.com>.

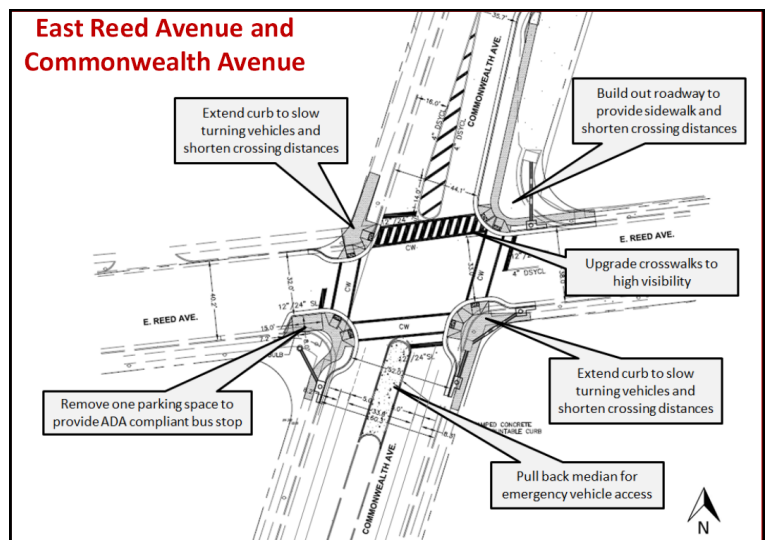
For more information regarding the projects listed above, please contact Pierre Holloman at 703.746.4080 and pierre.holloman@alexandriava.gov.

Complete Streets and Pedestrian Safety Improvements

Cora Kelly Safe Routes to School Project

The Cora Kelly Safe Routes to School Project involves an intersection redesign for improved safety at the intersection of East/West Reed and Commonwealth Avenues that will shorten the pedestrian crossing distances and realign the intersection to encourage slower vehicle turns. As part of this project, a bus bulb will be constructed for the bus stop on W. Reed Avenue. The construction of the bus bulb, which will create an ADA compliant bus stop, requires one on-street parking space to be removed.

The City will present the project to the Alexandria Traffic and Parking Board on **July 28, 2014** at 7:30pm (City Hall, Council Chambers). This is a public hearing where citizens can testify and state their concerns or support of the project. For additional information, please contact Hillary Poole at hillary.poole@alexandriava.gov and 703.746.4017 or visit: <http://alexandriava.gov/localmotion>.



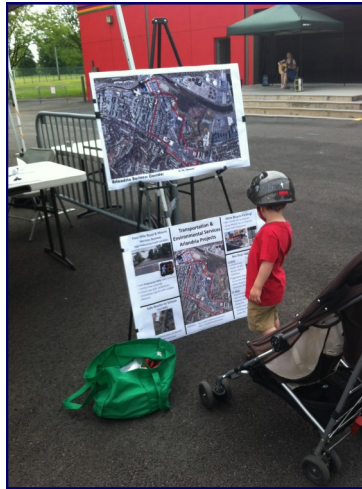
Community Engagement & Involvement

Community Meeting

Community Meeting in April

A Joint Meeting of the Arlandria Action Plan Advisory Group and the Four Mile Run Joint Task Force was held on April 23, 2014 at 7pm, at the Conservatory Center at Four Mile Run Park (4109 Mt. Vernon Avenue).

The purpose of the meeting was to provide updates and promote discussion on Four Mile Run Restoration Projects (including construction phasing for the demonstration project), Four Mile Run Park Citywide Plan, private development projects in Arlandria (including Mt. Vernon Village Center and Four Mile Run Pump Station Upgrade), and the Oakville



Triangle Planning Process. Meeting materials can be found on the project webpage: www.alexandriava.gov/Arlandria.

The next Arlandria Advisory Group is tentatively scheduled for **October 15, 2014**; although the date may change depending on various project activities in the neighborhood.

Join the City's eNews Service

To receive notices and information related to the implementation of the Arlandria Action Plan, please sign up for the City's email subscription service: <http://alexandriava.gov/enews>.

Friends of Four Mile Run Park

Friends of Four Mile Run Park

A group of community volunteers are working towards establishing a non-profit "Friends of Four Mile Run Park" (formal name to be determined) as they have collaborated to successfully organize many improvements in Arlandria over the last few years; including the Four Mile Run Farmers and Artisans Market, conversion of a vacant lot into a park (former electrical substation at 3550 Commonwealth Avenue), design of the new Four Mile Run Expansion site, and tree plantings.

The group's current community project is to add more trees in and around Four Mile Run Park. The Four Mile Run Park community tree planting proposal came in 1st place in the "Green Idea Challenge" sponsored by ACTION Alexandria, which awarded the project a grant of \$1,020. The award is being leveraged, along with a \$1,000 donation from the Four Mile Run Farmers and Artisans Market, to solicit contributions from the community to purchase and plant 12 substantial trees.

Community volunteers will provide the labor to plant and maintain the trees and funds will be used to pay for watering the trees during the first two years. If you are able to make a donation, visit: [CitizenInvestor: http://www.citizeninvestor.com/project/4mr-park-fall-tree-planting](http://www.citizeninvestor.com/project/4mr-park-fall-tree-planting). Please share this giving opportunity with your neighbors, civic and citizen associations, and local businesses. For additional information, please contact Kevin Beekman at kevin.beekman@arlandria.org.

Community Event: DiverseCity Event



The third annual DiverseCity Alexandria Multicultural Festival will be held on Saturday, **September 13, 2014** from 12pm – 4pm at the Conservatory Center at Four Mile Run Park (4109 Mt. Vernon Avenue) and Plaza. The free event will feature musical performers, food trucks, vendors, games, and more. The festival is for all ages, and it is sponsored by the City's Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Activities department, the Arlandria-Chirilagua Business Association, and a collection of community organizations. For more information or to get involved, contact Festival Director Debbie Hodnett at dfhodnett@gmail.com.

Development Project Updates

Mt. Vernon Village Center, 3809-3839 Mount Vernon Ave



The site was approved for redevelopment by the City Council in December 2011. The design is for a 53,000ft² mixed-use development with 478 residential

units, retail, underground parking, and associated infrastructure and streetscape improvements. At this time, the project is still going through the engineering review. The developers plan to break ground towards the end of this year.

DelRay Tower (formerly the Calvert), 3110 Mt Vernon Ave

Construction is nearing completion and occupancy should begin in August. When finished, the project will have 332 residential units (187 units before renovation) and 501 parking spaces for residential and retail users on the 3.49 acres site.



UDR is still working on retail leasing for approximately 10,500sf of new ground floor retail.

Four Mile Run Pump Station, 3650 Commonwealth Avenue

Construction has just begun at the Alexandria Renew Enterprises site for the upgrades to the existing pump station. The project is slated to be completed by the fall of 2015 and will include a small addition to the existing building, streetscape improvements along Commonwealth Avenue (including a new sidewalk and landscaping) and a new decorative fence around the perimeter of the site. A later phase will include construction of educational signage and public art around the perimeter of the site. For more information, visit the project website: www.alexrenewfmrps.com.



East Reed Townhomes, 101 and 103 East Reed

The site plan for five townhomes was approved in April 2012 by the Planning Commission. Construction is in progress. Exterior work is expected to be completed in summer 2014.

Jackson Crossing, 3600 Jefferson Davis Hwy

Construction is underway. When complete, the project will provide 78 residential apartments which will be marketed to residents with incomes up to 60% of the Area Median Income (AMI). There will be 78 garage spaces provided on-site. For real-time updates, view the Construction Camera: <http://www.ahcinc.org/EastReedAvenue.html>.



Lynhaven Apartments, 3521 Commonwealth Avenue

The 28-unit property will undergo both interior and exterior renovations. The exterior work will include enhanced landscaping, sidewalk improvement, new doors and windows, and a designated parking



lot in the back (with bike parking). The interior work will include replacement of kitchens, bathrooms, flooring, and all heating and cooling systems. Wesley Housing is currently working to secure permanent financing with hopes to start construction by the fall of 2014 with completion scheduled for mid-2015.

Route 1 Corridor Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Project

A design/build project is currently underway to design and construct exclusive transit lanes in the median of Route 1 between Potomac Avenue and East Glebe Road. In the ultimate configuration of the transitway, buses will operate between Pentagon City Metrorail and Braddock Road Metrorail stations in both exclusive and mixed-use lanes through Arlington County and the City of Alexandria. For updates, please visit: www.alexandriava.gov/58644.

For more information regarding the development projects listed above, please contact Maya Contreras at maya.contreras@alexandriava.gov and 703.746.3816.